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Minutes 06/11/2012

Arlington Cultural Council

Minutes of Monday, June 11, 2012 Meeting

Community Safety Building, 112 Mystic Street, 2nd Floor, Arlington, MA

Present: Margaret Barrett, Karin Blum Eliza Burden, Kurt Fusaris, Wendy Glaas, Becky Holmes-Farley, Stephanie Marlin-Curiel and Scott Samenfeld

Visitor: Ingrid Pabon

Absent: Sharon Shaloo

The meeting was called to order at 7:36 pm. The Council members exchanged introductions with the visitor.

Margaret arrived at 7:40 p.m.

ITEM 1 May 14, 2012 Minutes were reviewed and APPROVED unanimously.

ITEM 2 Requests for Payment

- Becky reported that she had the Request for Payment documentation from Betsy Schramm and Pasquale Tassone (2012-05). She said it appeared to be in order and everything was in duplicate. It was noted that there were signed invoices rather than receipts attached. Stephanie and Eliza provisionally accepted the documents and will meet with Sharon (Treasurer) when she returns to finish the process.
- Eliza reported receiving the Request for Payment from Veronica Robles ((2012-02)
- Margaret said she has not yet submitted her Reception expenses for reimbursement, but will do so.

ITEM 3 Report on Outstanding Grants

- 2012-01 - AEC - Ottoson Zen Garden project. Karin reported that they are working with Sally Naish in July.
- 2012-02 - "A Celebration of Mexican Music and Dance" performance by Veronica Robles was held at the Robbins Library. Small attendance, probably due to the exceptionally good weather.
- 2012-03 - Eliza noted that, at one point, Richard Clark hoped to perform Barrymore in June. Kurt has had difficulty getting in touch with him, so did not know the status, but he will follow-up.
- 2012-04 - ACA Friday Night for Creative Teens. Scott reported that John is working on RFP for this project
- 2012-05 - New England String Quartet Concert premiering new works of Betsy Schramm & Pasquale Tassone. This concert was held May 18th and several ACC members were in attendance. It was well-attended and seemed very well received.
- 2012-07 Old Schwamb Mill. Scott reported that they have one small piece remaining that they will do in the Fall.
- 2012-09 Cantilena, Inc. An American Christmas CD project. Eliza reported that they are still working on their project.
- 2012-10 CCSE "Writing it Down" project. Becky reported that Angelika Festa and her writing group of 5 or 6

people are still working on this project. During the summer, Angelika meets more informally with each member individually to refine the work they have done. She anticipates having some public sharing sessions (not yet scheduled) and said she would inform Becky in advance, so that Becky can attend one of them.

- 2012-12 Chris Kolb, Garden Under the Oak: A Horticultural Exploration. Eliza reported that she has communicated with him and he is still working on his project.
- 2012-13 Adria Arch "Arlington Windows Project." Stephanie reported that Adria is still seeking permission from landlords to use windows and has received a number of "no" responses. She suspects that Adria will need to request an extension in order to be able to realize her vision and complete the number of window displays for which she was granted monies.
- 2012-14 Meet Julia Child! Project by Delvena Theatre Company. Margaret reported that this was likely to happen in November.
- 2012-15 Mark Sandman, Jam'n Java Open Mic. Stephanie said that the status hasn't changed. Mark has ordered guitar picks with advertisements on them. She doesn't believe those have come in yet.
- 2012-16 - Don Daniel's "Just a Minute Festival" This seems to be in the process of being advertised. Eliza shared one of the videos that they have online from a previous year.

ITEM 4 Election of New Treasurer

At a prior meeting, Martha Sheehan expressed a willingness and interest in becoming an ACC Treasurer since longtime Treasurer, Sharon Shaloo, will be cycling off in July after two terms of service. Martha has been sworn in by the Town Clerk and is now officially a member. Accordingly, a MOTION was made to nominate Martha Sheehan as the new Treasurer. This motion was seconded and PASSED unanimously. Then, a MOTION was immediately made to appoint Martha as the new Treasurer. This motion was seconded and also PASSED unanimously. Martha was welcomed to her new role and thanked for taking on this responsibility.

ITEM 5 Community Input Survey Results

Becky reported that she had entered data from an additional 11 surveys which were collected at the Arlington Alive! event and those, plus all the additional surveys we have received thus far (totaling approximately 80) were distributed in graph form by Scott. He hadn't had time to draw any conclusions from the results thus far, as he had just compiled the information on the day of our meeting, but said he would do so at our next meeting. It was agreed that additional survey data should be collected through the end of July because we need to come up with our priorities for the year in August.

ITEM 6 Town Day Planning

- Town Day is scheduled to take place on September 15th. Eliza reported that she submitted the paperwork necessary to reserve a spot and requested that we receive Lamson Way again. Town Day was described to our visitor (who is new to Arlington) and we told her that we still needed to decide what our "public art activity" might be this year (whether it should be similar to the activity last year, which was well received, or whether we might come up with something else -- possibly having kids put pictures of art they would like to see onto a map of Arlington. Eliza, Becky and Martha agreed to be on the planning subcommittee for Town Day.

ITEM 7 Arlington Alive! Planning

- The Arlington Alive! event took place on June 7th; 7 - 9:30 p.m. at ACA and, at the peak, there were estimated to be about 85 people in attendance.

· Stacie Smith, an Arlington resident, from the Consensus Building Institute in Cambridge moderated the evening's events. Adam Chapdelaine, Town Manager, John Budzyna, Executive Director of the ACA, Meri Jenkins, Program Manager in charge of Cultural Districts from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, and Jan Whitted from the Capitol Square District in East Arlington each gave presentations and then Breakout sessions occurred. It was agreed that Scott's idea for a panel discussion was a success. Stacie was a great at carrying a cohesive thread throughout the whole meeting. Kurt liked the format and it was agreed that the mapping activity was good and got the participants talking. Karin asked whether thank you notes were going out and was willing to do them as Correspondence Secretary. Stephanie said that she was already planning to do them.

- Three primary recommendations that came out of the breakout sessions were the following:

- 1) That there should be a central calendar/website of events and consistent message "branding" so as to enable us to appeal to, and involve, a large segment of population
 - 2) Promotion should be through a big event that collaborating profits/nonprofit with an Arts and Culture focus would promote within and beyond Arlington.
 - 3) That there should be a central leadership committee that would be able to implement priorities. There apparently is already a provision for an Arts and Culture Commission in the Arlington Bylaws. Eliza suggested that there might be confusion if the name of the Commission were similar to our own.
- Scott will contact Bob Sprague and try to get some of the photos that Bob took at the Arlington Alive! event. He will also share some of these with Eliza so she can include them in the online photo display she is creating.

- Karin suggested that we might want to have an article in the Sunday Boston Globe.
- Ingrid Pabon, visitor, suggested that she knew a Boston Globe correspondent who might be interested in doing an interview of Stephanie about the event. She will put the two in touch with each other.
- Stephanie is putting the finishing touches on a report of the Arlington Alive! event and will circulate it when it has been completed.

ITEM 8 Grant Cycle Business - publicity

- Margaret has reserved a library table for September. She has a trifold board that she will bring to the July meeting and can be used to put up a display - photos, fliers, posters at the Robbins with our grant application materials.
- Eliza will look at the Guidelines and propose revisions that we may include with the applications this year
- The past guidelines are on the website, per Scott.
- Scott and Margaret will begin publicizing the grant cycle starting now.

ITEM 9 New Business

- A-TED has proposed having an event titled "Menotomy Rocks." We will discuss at our next meeting. Some concern was voiced about the name being confusing if the event is not held at Menotomy Rocks Park. Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Submitted by Rebecca Holmes-Farley, Recording Secretary

Reserved rooms for the following upcoming meetings:

Mon. July 9th, 4th Floor Conference Room, Robbins Lib. 7:30 p.m.

Mon. August 13th, 4th Floor Conference Room, Robbins Lib. 7:30 p.m.

Mon. September 10th, 4th Floor Conference Room Robbins Lib 7:30 p.m. (requested, awaiting confirmation)